

Month of July 1691

A Faithful

NARRATIVE

Of the Several

Strange Prodigious Signs,

AND

Wonderful Appearances & Accidents,

Which have lately hapned in

Several Parts of England,

Both from the
Heavens, Earth, and Water:

Being a Relation of

- I. A Prodigious *Thunder* and *Lightning*, at a Place call'd *Everton*, near *Daventry* in *Northamptonshire*; which sad Accident kill'd *Four* Persons; the Names of which were, *Mr. Simon Marriot*, *Mr. Robert Marriot* his Son, *Mr. Richard Willis*, and *Mr. Thomas Burroughs*; and wounded *Ten* Persons more, *Mr. Thomas Gregory* and his Wife (the Owners of the Field) were two of them: Which sad Relation is attested by *Mr. William Needler* of *Tatnam*, *Mr. Thomas Hygins*, of *St. Martins*, *Mr. Tulse* in *Foster-Lane*, and *Mr. Lovett*, a Grocer, in *Daventry* in *Northamptonshire*.
- II. A Whale, or Sea-Monster, of a Prodigious Size, near *New-Castle*; with the strange Actions it perform'd.
- III. Of a Strange and Wonderful Apparition of *Armies on the Land*, near the City of *Exeter*; which appeard the very Evening before the late Famous Battle in *IRELAND*.
- IV. Of a Terrible Tempest, which hapned in several Counties, (particularly in the Isle of *Ely*) with the Damage it did.
- V. Of a most Strange and Wonderful Apparition of *Armies in the Air*, near *Malden* in *Essex*.

Licensed according to Order.

London, Printed for *H. Jones*, in the Strand, 1691.



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NARRATIVE

Of the Several
Strange, and Prodigious Signs,

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Wonderful Appearances & Accidents

Which have happned in several Parts of
England, both from the
 Heavens, Earth, and Waters, &c.

THERE is no Person of any Age or Understanding, but must needs acknowledge that the last Four, if not

Twelve Years, has been, as it were, an Age of *Prodigies* and *Wonders*, in those three Kingdoms; so that, it may be, no former time can parallel, so many strange *Transactions*, as have happened in so little space; and therefore, as an ingenious Person says,

*A Book of Wonders is most fit,
 In wondrous Times for to be writ.*

And another Learned Author says,
*The Wise Creator of Heaven and Earth
 is wont, when the measure of our Wick-*

4 **Strange Signs and**
edness comes to the height, rather to in-
flict upon us Temporal, than Eternal Pu-
nishments; and to use for our Amend-
ment, the occasion of these Natural Ef-
fects, thereby to affright us, from the
terror of those Sights, to a Repentance,
and dutiful Respect of him. And if we
consult History, we shall find, that
there hath never been any notable Ap-
parition or Prodigy, seen in the Hea-
vens, on the Water, or the Earth, but
it hath been attended, in the sequel,
with more than ordinary Occurrences
here on Earth: Neither is there any
one, except he hath no Religion, who
is not affrighted at Lightning, the
clashing noise of Thunder, or an hor-
rible Comet; for God speaks to Men,
not only with the Tongues of Men
by Prophets, Apostles, and Teachers,
but sometime also by the Elements,
and other extraordinary Signs in the
Heavens, Earth, or Sea.

In order whereunto, it cannot sure-
ly be unreasonable, nor unprofitable,
to publish to the World, what has
lately happened in several parts of
England; of which I shall therefore
proceed to give an Account as fol-
loweth:

Of

Of a prodigious Clap of Thunder and Lightning, near Daintry in Northampton-shire; Killing four Persons, &c.

WE have of late, had great Thunders and Lightning, accompanied with terrible Storms of Rain; whose suddain violence overflowed divers Places, to the great Damage: among others of this kind, of the sad effects of the Storms, we have a particular Account in the following manner, attested by Credible Witness.

At a Place near *Badby*, a Mile from *Daventry* in *Northampton-shire*, on Monday the 27th. of July 1691. 16 Persons being in a Field (called *Everton Field*) at Harvest-Work, The Sky immediately overcasting with black and dismal Clouds, prodigious Thunders & Lightning ensued, which accompanied with extraordinary Showers of Rain, made them seek shelter under the Trees and Hedges; but they proved no safe retreat; for immediately a Flash of Fire broke from a Cloud, and falling amongst them with a very sudden motion, struck four of them dead; they not having leisure to utter one word;

and Burnt Ten of the rest in so terrible a manner, that their Lives are dispaired of: Amongst the Wounded are the Master of the Ground, and his Wife. And it is remarkable, that one of those Killed, held in his Hand a Snush-box, just putting it to his Nose and another had a little Dog between his Legs, holding him by the Ears, as if at play; which Dog was likewise found Dead. The Fire likewise split an Ash-tree (under which they sat) all in pieces; many Splinters of which are brought to London, as a testimony of this sad and deplorable Disaster. The Storm continued a long time, making the Earth, and the neighbouring Villages, to tremble.

The Names of the Persons Killed (being Four) which were as followeth, viz.

Mr. *Simon Marriot*; Mr. *Robert Marriot* his Son: Mr. *Richard Wills*, who was found Dead with a little Dog in his Lap, who was also Kill'd.

Mr. *Thomas Burrough*, who was found Dead with Snush in his Hand, just putting it to his Nose.

The Confirmation of this Relation (if any Doubt the Truth thereof) may be had from divers Creditable Persons in the City of London, as well as in the Country where it hapened; particularly from

Mr. *William Needler* of *Tatnam*:

Mr.

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Mr. Thomas Higgins, of St. Martins:
Mr. Tulse, a Goldsmith, in Foster-Lane.
Mr. Loovert, a Grocer, in Daventry:

Of a Whale, or Sea-monster, near
Newcastle.

ON Saturday the Fourth of this instant July, 1691. Between the hours of Nine and Ten in the Morning, there appear'd off of a small Seaport, in the County of Cumberland, called Gossforth (which place is situate not far from Newcastle, and within Three Miles of Sea Scale) a Whale, or some other most strange and wonderful Sea-Monster, in the shape of a Whale, being of a prodigious and unheard of length and breadth: he was visible to great numbers of Spectators, for above three hours, very near the Shoar, during which time, by his often moving his Body, and flouncing up and down in the Sea, he made so prodigious a Noise (infinitely exceeding that of the coming in, or going out of the Tide at any Bridge, or on the greatest Flood) that it Alarm'd the Inhabitants that were in the Neighbouring Villages, and others that were at Work in the Fields, for near Ten Miles round.

Of

Of an Apparition of Land Soldiers,
near the City of Exeter.

ON *Saturday* the Eleventh of this instant *July*, 1691. In the Afternoon of the same day, several Country-Men being at Work, in a Meadow belonging to a small Village, near the City of *Exon* in the County of *Devon*, as they were busily employed in Loading, or as they call it, Housing their Hay, one of them plainly descryed at some Distance, a great Body of Armed Men, moving towards them, most of which seemed to be mounted on large White Horses; the Country-man informing the rest of the Company of it, they plainly saw the same as well as himself: The Men that were mounted on the Horses, had their Swords drawn, and Pieces, like Carbines, hanging on their Shoulders. After some short time, this seeming Body of Men, marched themselves on the Left of them, clear out of Sight; four of the Persons that saw this Sight or Apparition returning home, went before one Mr. F—— an Honourable Justice of the Peace of that County, and made Affidavit of the

Wonderful Appearances.

the same; what may be thought not a little Remarkable in this Apparition, that on the very next day being Sunday the 12th. the late Famous Battle in Ireland was Fought, in which their Majesties Forces obtain'd a Signal Victory over the French and Irish Papists; in which Action the Earl of Portland's Regiment (who were all White Horse, and but just Arrived in a Camp from England) were considerably Engaged. much the same Apparition, or like Body of Men, were seen some Days before in Pembroke-shire in Wales, and in Cheshire; in the former of which Places, several Persons likewise made Affidavit of the Truth, of it before an Honourable Justice of the Peace of the said County, who sent up an Account of the same to a Relation of his in Grays Inn London.

The foregoing Relations of Armed Men, and what ensued thereupon in Ireland, brings to my remembrance, a Relation given by Mr. Hamilton in his Account of the Actions of the Insurrection Men, that just before the Famous Defeat given to Mac-Carty's Army, killing of his Men, and taking

himself Prisoner; there was several
strange Apparitions of Bodies of Men
&c. in the Adjacent Neighbourhood

Of a Terrible Tempest in the Isle
ELY.

ON Thursday the 15th instant, there
fell a mighty Tempest of Rain,
Hail, Lightning, and Thunder in the
Isle of Ely, Cambridge-shire, and some
parts of Hartford-shire; before the
Tempest began, the Sky was for a
considerable time Black and Dark
when on a suddain there happened a
great Storm of Hail, which by the
assistance of of an East-Wind, fell with
such violence, that the Hail-Stones
rebounded two Foot high from the
ground; after which followed a fierie
showre of Rain, which seemed rather
to come down in Pailfals, than in the
common way, and so affrighted the
habitants, that they ran immediately
into the Fields to save the Sheep and
Lambs, and other small Cattle; during
this dreadful Storm, the Heavens
sent forth such huge and frequent
flashes of Fire, that the Firmament
seemed to be in a Flame; some of
the Hail-Stones that fell, were of an

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very large Size; the Rain caused so great a Torrent of Water, that in several parts great Quantities of Sheep and Lambs, &c. were drowned, which with several considerable quantities of Hay were carried away with the Torrent.

Of strange Apparitions in the Air, near Maldon in Essex.

IN the first Week of July, 1691. At a small place near the Town of Maldon, in the County of Essex, there was seen the following Apparitions, or Appearance: Just about twy light, or the shutting up of the Evening, at the House of the Vicker of the Parish, which is situate near half a mile from the Church, at a time when the Gentleman and his Family was at Supper, a great Dog that belonged to the House, was observed to make a very great and unusual Barking, as if the House had been beset with Thieves; upon which a Servant was ordered to go into the Yard, to find out the occasion of the Dogs Barking, who coming to the place, saw, to his great Admiration, a strange and unusual Light in the Sky, upon which,

which, giving information thereof to his Master, &c. they all came out and looking in the Sky, they all soon after, saw the plain light or appearance of a Body of Men in the Air, divided into two Bodies and soon after that, they heard the plain noise or report of Guns, great and small, and so their thinking, Men dropping down from both Parties; after some time, these Bodies of Men vanished, and they saw the appearance of only two Men on Horse back Engaged with Pistols, and to their thinking, the one killed the other, and then vanished.



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ADVERTISEMENT.

An Impartial Journal of all the Transactions of Their Majesties Forces, and the of the Irish Rebels, both Regular Troops and Rapparees. With an exact List of all the Irish Rebels, that have been Kill'd, or taken Prisoners in each Action: with the Names of the English Officers that Commanded, the Date when, and Place where each Action was performed. Printed for Robt. Hayburst in Little-Brittain.

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